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PP RUEHFK  
DE RUEHKO #3347 3450204  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 100204Z DEC 08  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9308  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHMHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
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RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 1339  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 5130  
RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6748  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2648  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 2745  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2857  
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 003347

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,  
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OIIP KMDR KPAO JA

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - INDIA-PAKISTAN RELATIONS AND  
SIX-PARTY TALKS

¶1. LEAD STORIES: All Wednesday morning Japanese national dailies gave top play to Sony's plans for layoffs.

¶2. "India, Pakistan Remain Calm" The top circulation, moderate Yomiuri wrote (12/10): "Concerns emerged over a possible rise in tension between India and Pakistan in response to the Mumbai terror attacks. However, thanks to U.S. intervention, a rapid deterioration of the situation appears unlikely, as Pakistan has begun cracking down on radicals, including the masterminds behind the attacks, while India has also apparently exercised restraint.... Given that Japanese and other foreign enterprises are moving to review their presence in India following the attacks, India's international image would further decline if military tensions with Pakistan were to escalate. Pakistan is also preoccupied with taking measures to ensure domestic security and to reconstruct its economy."

¶3. "High Expectations for Chinese Arbitration" A correspondent for the liberal Tokyo Shimbun reported from Beijing (12/10): "The six-party head-of-delegation meeting over the North Korean nuclear issue has started with points of dispute still remaining unresolved. As the recent pattern of the U.S. and DPRK taking the lead in negotiations has faltered, China's mediation abilities hold the key to the success of the Beijing round. With expectations also mounting for Russia's role in the talks, Moscow's presence in the framework this time around is more pronounced than before."

SCHIEFFER